

**Amendments to the Claims**

1. (currently amended) A fuel ~~cell~~ conditioning device comprising:
  - at least one magnet having a lower side, said magnet longitudinally disposed adjacent a fuel line; and operatively arranged to focus a magnetic field toward said fuel line;
  - at least one ferrous metal plate disposed on an upper side of said magnet; and,
  - a means for securing said magnet and said ferrous metal plate to said fuel line.
2. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1, further comprising a protective shield for covering said at least one magnet and said at least one ferrous metal plate.
3. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 2, wherein said protective shield is selected from a member of the group consisting of rubber and plastic.
4. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 3, wherein said protective shield further comprises said means for securing said device to said fuel line.
5. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1, wherein said securing means comprises at least one strap.
6. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1, wherein said magnet comprises a magnetic field strength of at least 2,000 gauss.
7. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1, wherein said magnet and said at least one ferrous metal plate are of approximate size and shape such that substantial registration exists between the upper surface of said magnet and a planar surface of said ferrous metal plate.
8. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1, wherein said lower side of said magnet comprises the south pole of said magnet.
9. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1, operatively arranged to be secured to the fuel line of an internal combustion engine.
10. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1 comprising:
  - at least two magnets;
  - at least two ferrous metal plates;

said at least two magnets comprising first and second magnets each associated with one of said at least two ferrous metal plates; each of said at least two ferrous metal plates disposed on an upper side of said first and second magnets, said first and second magnets and associated ferrous metal plates disposed adjacent said fuel line and longitudinally with respect to one another along said fuel line; said first magnet disposed toward a fuel distribution means such that its south pole is adjacent said fuel line and said second magnet disposed toward a fuel source such that its north pole is adjacent said fuel line.

11. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1 comprising:

at least four magnets;

at least two ferrous metal plates;

said at least four magnets comprising first, second, third and fourth magnets; said third and fourth magnets each associated with one of said at least two ferrous metal plates; said ferrous metal plates disposed on an upper side of said third and fourth magnets, said third and fourth magnets each in magnetic attractive registrable contact with said first and second magnets, respectively; said first and second magnets longitudinally disposed with respect to one another along said fuel line, said first magnet disposed toward a fuel distribution means such that its south pole is adjacent said fuel line and said second magnet disposed toward a fuel source such that its north pole is adjacent said fuel line.

12. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1, said fuel conditioning device arranged for attachment to a fuel line conveying fuel from a fuel source to a fuel distribution means, said fuel conditioning device comprising:

at least one shield substantially surrounding said at least one magnet, said at least one ferrous metal plate, and said fuel line; said shield defining a cavity for receiving said magnet and said ferrous metal plate.

13. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 12, further comprising a second magnet, said at least one magnet being longitudinally disposed with respect to said second magnet along said fuel line, said at least one magnet disposed toward said fuel distribution means such that its south pole is adjacent said fuel line, said second magnet is disposed toward a fuel

source such that its north pole is adjacent said fuel line, and said shield substantially surrounds said first and second magnet.

14. (previously presented) A fuel conditioning device for attaching to a fuel line conveying fuel from a fuel source to a fuel distribution means, said fuel distribution means, said fuel conditioning device comprising at least a first double magnet assembly; said first double magnet assembly comprising:

    a first magnet having a lower side centrally disposed adjacent longitudinal portion of the fuel line to provide a magnetic field proximate said fuel line;

    a second magnet disposed on top of said first magnet in magnetic attraction therewith at least one ferrous metal plate disposed near an upper side of the second magnet; and,

    at least one shield substantially surrounding said first and second magnets, said at least one ferrous metal plate and said longitudinal portion of said fuel line; said shield defining a cavity for receiving said first and second magnets and said ferrous metal plate.

15. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 14, wherein said lower side of said first magnet of said first double magnet assembly is disposed toward said fuel distribution means such that its south pole is adjacent said fuel line.

16. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 15, further comprising a second double magnet assembly, said first and second double magnet assemblies longitudinally adjacent one another along said fuel line such that said second double magnet assembly is disposed toward a fuel source and said first double magnet assembly is disposed toward said fuel distribution means.

17. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 16, wherein said lower side of said first magnet of said second double magnet assembly is disposed such that its north pole is adjacent said fuel line and centrally disposed on said fuel line.

18. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1, further comprising a focusing bar disposed adjacent said fuel line on the side of said fuel line opposite said magnet.

19. (previously presented) The fuel conditioning device of Claim 1, wherein said lower side of said magnet is centrally disposed adjacent said fuel cell.